

ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY



ARKANSAS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS UP 3 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

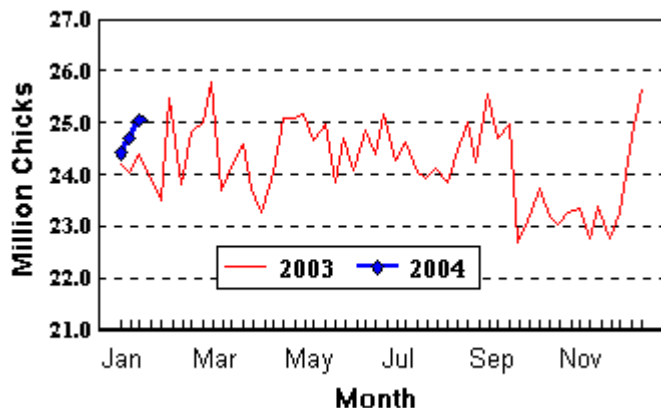
Broiler-type chicks placed for meat production in Arkansas was 25.1 million during the week ending January 17, 2004. Placements were up 3 percent from the comparable week in 2003, and up 1 percent from the previous week, and included 2.7 million chicks shipped in from other states. Cumulative placements from December 27, 2003 through January 17, 2004 were 74.3 million, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

The broiler-type chicks hatched for the week was 25.7 million, up 4 percent from the corresponding week a year earlier, and up 1 percent from the previous week. Of the total hatch, 3.0 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 82.6 percent.

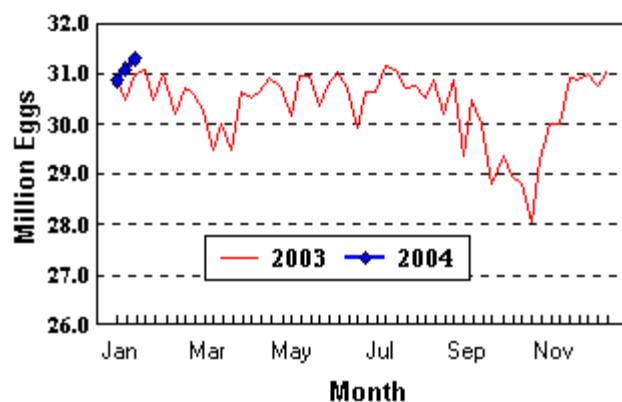
Arkansas hatcheries set 31.3 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending January 17, 2004, up 1 percent from both the same period last year, and also from the previous week.

Week Ending	NET PLACEMENTS			CHICKS HATCHED			EGGS SET		
	2002-2003	2003-2004	% Change	2002-2003	2003-2004	% Change	2002-2003	2003-2004	% Change
	<i>1,000</i>			<i>1,000</i>			<i>1,000</i>		
Dec. 13	24,762	23,280	94	24,415	25,142	103	30,240	30,992	102
Dec. 20	23,254	24,764	106	24,244	25,552	105	30,054	30,777	102
Dec. 27	23,721	25,698	108	24,193	25,519	105	29,870	31,091	104
Jan. 3	24,244	24,457	101	24,836	25,455	102	30,873	30,893	100
Jan. 10	24,081	24,747	103	24,771	25,312	102	30,485	31,084	102
Jan. 17	24,397	25,061	103	24,693	25,677	104	31,023	31,324	101

CHICKS PLACED IN ARKANSAS, 2003-2004



EGGS SET, 2003 - 2004



BROILER EGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2003-2004

STATE	EGGS SET (in Thousands)					CHICKS PLACED (in Thousands)						
	Week Ending				1/ %	Week Ending						1/ %
	27-Dec	03-Jan	10-Jan	17-Jan		13-Dec	20-Dec	27-Dec	03-Jan	10-Jan	17-Jan	
Alabama	29,714 *	29,693	29,586	29,543	107	21,878	21,230	21,883	21,775	21,719	21,967	105
ARKANSAS	31,091	30,893	31,084	31,324	101	23,280	24,764	25,698	24,457	24,747	25,061	103
Delaware	3,696	3,678	3,749	3,829	107	4,689	4,857	4,230	4,201	4,354 *	5,224	98
Florida	1,353	1,329	1,348	1,359	87	1,420	1,827	1,703	1,736	1,609 *	1,637	105
Georgia	33,064 *	33,440	32,700	33,168	107	24,681	25,971	26,178 *	26,469	24,976 *	26,211	105
Kentucky	6,883 *	6,626	6,586	6,449	101	5,849	5,845	5,899 *	5,885	5,742 *	5,649	111
Maryland	8,793	8,858	8,845 *	8,867	92	5,942	6,101	6,495	6,470	6,143 *	5,049	90
Mississippi	18,908	19,073	19,115	19,344	103	15,804	16,328	16,463	16,528	16,012	16,632	105
N. Carolina	17,868 *	17,861	18,192	17,864	98	14,354	14,608	13,481	14,162	14,017	14,115	100
Oklahoma	6,213	6,263	6,394	6,247	97	5,512	4,383	3,879	5,505	4,995	4,471	110
Pennsylvania	3,847 *	3,351 *	3,342 *	3,650	103	2,669 *	2,678 *	2,653 *	2,612 *	2,563 *	2,653	103
S. Carolina	3,614	3,659	3,690	3,702	77	3,842	4,469	3,928	3,776	4,437	3,467	80
Texas	14,638	14,328	14,695	14,800	102	12,292	12,356	11,822	11,457	11,982	12,001	102
Virginia	6,174	6,220	6,273	6,230	98	5,285	5,131	4,896	5,386	5,088 *	4,798	92
CAL,LA,MO,IN,WV	20,144 *	20,378 *	20,405 *	20,683	107	19,233	19,956 *	19,119 *	17,979 *	18,422 *	17,540	98
Total 2003-2004	206,000 *	205,650 *	206,004 *	207,059		166,730 *	170,504 *	168,327 *	168,398 *	166,806 *	166,475	
Total 2003	201,018	204,119	203,492	202,802		163,147	164,898	162,414	164,413	162,132	163,604	
%Prev. Year	102	101	101	102		102	103	104	102	103	102	
Approximate Marketing Date 2004.....						31-Jan	07-Feb	14-Feb	21-Feb	28-Feb	06-Mar	

* Revised. 1/ Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 2 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-state weekly program set 207 million eggs during the week ending January 17, 2003. This was up 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 82 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP 2 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-state weekly program placed 166 million chicks for meat production during the week ending January 17, 2003. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 28, 2003 through January 17, 2004 were 502 million, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.